

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application are respectfully requested.

**I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS**

Claims 7, 14, 21, 28 and 35-40 are amended herein.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-7, 9-14, 16-21, 23-28 and 30-40 are pending and under consideration in the present application.

**II. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 2-7, 9-14, 16-21, 23-28 AND 30-40**

In item 7, on page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner states, "the disclosed invention apparently does in fact distinguish over the cited references however the invention as recited by the claims does not." The Examiner further states, "the claims do not adequately differentiate over the inferred simultaneous conduction of the cited prior art by clearly and distinctly setting forth the detection of actual simultaneous conduction based upon the determination of the conduction status of one of the switches by detecting the voltage across the synchronous switch."

Claims 7, 14, 21 and 28, for example, are amended herein to recite that "the detection circuit monitors a driving signal that drives at least one of the main switch and the synchronous switch to detect a state that the main switch and the synchronous switch are simultaneously turned on." Support for the above claimed features may be found at line 22, on page 28 – line 18, on page 29 of the Applicant's specification. Accordingly, it is submitted that the claims 7, 14, 21 and 28 patentably distinguish over the cited prior art.

Similar to claims 7, 14, 21 and 28, claim 35 recites, "the detecting monitors a driving signal driving at least one of the main switch and the synchronous switch to detect the state that the main switch and the synchronous switch are simultaneously turned on."

Claims 36-39 recite, "the detection circuit monitors a driving signal that drives at least one of the first switch and the second switch to detect the state that the first switch and the second switch are simultaneously turned on."

Claim 40 recites, "detecting a state in which at least one of the first switch and the second switch are simultaneously turned on."

Therefore, it is submitted that claims 35-40 also patentably distinguish over the cited prior art.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of all of the pending claims is overcome.

### III. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that each of the claims patentably distinguishes over the prior art, and therefore defines allowable subject matter. A prompt and favorable reconsideration of the rejection along with an indication of allowability of all pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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